

mentibus, lemmis ad basim glabris supra pulverulentis, exteriori 9 mm. longo acuto, interiori 8 mm. longo obtuso, antheris 1.5 mm. longis, palea semen oblongum (5 mm. longum, 1 mm. latum) arcte amplexenti.

Tufted perennial, 2.5–4 dm. high: the culm slightly striate and quite smooth: leaf-sheaths loose, deeply striate, cellular-reticulate in the channels; ligule scarious and very short (1 mm. long); leaf-blades linear (4–14 cm. long, 2–6 mm. broad) smooth, deeply striate: spike 6–11 cm. long, 6–10 mm. thick: spikelets appressed, paired, or often single at the base of the spike, 1–3-flowered; the upper flower sterile: glumes lanceolate, 10–15 mm. long, 1.5–4 mm. broad, with 4–7 prominent raised strigose nerves: lemmas glabrous at base, pulverulent above; the outer 9 mm. long, pointed; the inner 8 mm. long, blunt: anthers 1.5 mm. long: palea closely investing the grain: grain oblong, 5 mm. long, 1 mm. broad. CALIFORNIA: sea cliffs, Champion gulch, below Westport, Mendocino Co., August 1, 1902, *J. W. Congdon* (TYPE in U. S. Nat. Herb.); sea cliffs below Westport, August 1, 1902, *J. W. Congdon*.

*Key to the Species and Varieties Discussed.*

- A. Grain 6–10 mm. long: anther 4.5–6.5 mm. long: leaf blades scabrous above,
  - B. Spikelets normally more than two at a node: glumes awl-shaped: lemmas pubescent up to the middle.....*E. giganteus* Vahl.
  - B. Spikelets normally paired: glumes lanceolate or linear-lanceolate: lemmas pubescent to the tip,
    - C. Summit of culm glabrous: glumes stiff and hard, 1- rarely 3-nerved, often glabrous and shining.....*E. arenarius* L.
    - C. Summit of culm velvety-pubescent: glumes 3–5-nerved,
      - Spikelets sessile: glumes pliant, softly villous, or rarely glabrate  
*E. arenarius* L., var. *villosus* E. Mey.
      - Spikelets pedicelled: glumes stiff, hispid or glabrate  
*E. arenarius* L., var. *compositus* (Abro.) St. John.
- A. Grain 5 mm. long: anther 1.5 mm. long: leaf blades smooth: summit of culm glabrous: glumes scabrous, prominently 4–7-ridged: lemmas glabrous at base, pulverulent above.....*E. strigatus* St. John.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

A HANDY BOOK ON TREES AND SHRUBS.—The ever increasing books intended to simplify the determination of the common plants has received a notable addition in another of Mr. Mathews's volumes. The *Field Book of American Trees and Shrubs*<sup>1</sup> is more ambitious in

<sup>1</sup> FIELD BOOK OF AMERICAN TREES AND SHRUBS. By F. Schuyler Mathews. pp. 465 + xvi, freely illustrated. Cloth \$2.00; full leather, \$2.50; postage 15 cents. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.



scope than its predecessors, attempting to give a description of all the more common trees and shrubs of the United States, with outline sketches of the foliage and, when needed, flowers or fruit; and characteristic illustrations of the bark and habit of many of the trees. If it were desirable to judge the books of this class by exact scientific standards, it might be suggested that the subtitle, "A concise Description of the Character and Color of Species common throughout the United States," is misleading, since none of the species discussed is "common throughout the United States." But accepting the book in the friendly and untechnical spirit in which it is written and pardoning the omission of many species common in sections of the country presumably unfamiliar to the author, we may say that the book will meet a real demand. The text and the maps illustrating the distribution of some of the species have been compiled from authoritative sources, and the sketches have the life-like qualities so characteristic of Mr. Mathews's drawings. Altogether the book is one which will give satisfaction not only to the beginner but to all who wish a ready reference volume on our more common trees and shrubs.—M. L. F.

*Vol. 17, no. 196, including pages 73 to 88 and plate 113, was issued 28 April, 1915.*